

BERLIN IGNORES AMERICAN DEMAND

President and Cabinet Study German Answer

KAISER'S REPLY FAILS TO FIT
CONTENTIONS OF PRESIDENT:
DIPLOMATIC SPLIT FORECAST

Germany's Note on Submarine Question Parries With
Issues Taken Up by American Government and
Urges Action Against Blockade.

BREACH OF RELATIONS SEEMS CERTAIN

End of Friendly Connections Foreshadowed Officials in
Washington Aver—Secretary Lansing
and Cabinet Members Silent.

(Text of Note on Page 14)

Washington, May 5.—The first portions of the German note were read by officials here with undisguised disappointment. Some officials feared a break in diplomatic relations was forecast.

The unofficial copy was sent to President Wilson as rapidly as it was received. He had no engagements today outside of the cabinet meeting, which was expected to be devoted almost exclusively to the German situation.

No action will be taken until the official text of the note has arrived here and has been studied by the president and Secretary Lansing. The president has already discussed with his cabinet the steps to be taken in case the note was found to be unsatisfactory.

The official text is expected before Sunday, the anniversary of the sinking of the Lusitania. It was generally expected that whatever action is taken by the American government probably will come on that day.

The president has already informed congress of his intention to break relations with Germany in case her reply is unsatisfactory and therefore it is believed he has decided not to go before congress again before taking the action.

The state department's only official information on the German note just before 11 o'clock this morning was a dispatch from Ambassador Gerard sent last night, saying he had received the document from the Berlin foreign office and that he was at once coding it and starting it by cable.

The unofficial copy was laid before the cabinet. One chief point for consideration seemed to be Germany's reference to the immunity of "merchant vessels recognized by international law." This was regarded as having possibilities of relating to the dispute over questions of armament and alleged instructions of the British admiralty to merchant captains to attack submarines.

Bad Impression Not Relieved.

The first impression in official circles was that the full text did not much relieve the unfavorable impression created by the opening portions. It was admitted the new instructions to submarine commanders would have to be weighed and considered very carefully before their acceptability to this government could be determined.

Touched in Armed Ship Issue.

The recent declaration of the state department on the status of armed merchant ships touches upon this point. It held:

"It is necessary for a belligerent warship to determine the status of an armed merchant vessel of an enemy encountered on the high seas."

"The determination of warlike character must rest in no case upon presumption but upon conclusive evidence because the responsibility for the destruction of life and property depends on the actual facts of the case and cannot be avoided or lessened by a standard of evidence which a belligerent may announce as creating a presumption of hostile character. On the other hand, to safeguard himself from possible liability for unwarranted destruction of life and property, the belligerent should, in the absence of conclusive evidence, act on the presumption that an armed merchantman is of peaceable character."

Armed Ship Not Warship.

"A presumption based solely on the presence of an armament on a merchant vessel of an enemy is not a sufficient reason for a belligerent to declare it to be a warship and proceed to attack it without regard to the rights of the persons on board. Conclusive evidence of a purpose to use the armament for aggression is essential."

Summarizing the status of a mer-

REVIEW AMERICAN
AND GERMAN NOTES

Washington, May 5.—Germany's diplomatic correspondence with the United States on the submarine issue has extended over nearly a year. All along President Wilson has spoken primarily for the inviolable rights of Americans and generally for the rights of neutrals.

Submarine warfare did not actually enter the realm of diplomacy until the destruction of the Lusitania. The accumulation of cases affecting Americans was taken up in the first note to Germany, which was dispatched May 15, 1915. It characterized the attacks on the Paluba, Cushing, Bullfight and Lusitania as a "series of events which the United States has observed with growing concern, distress and amazement."

The note closed with these words: "The imperial German government will not expect the government of the United States to omit any word or act necessary to the performance of its sacred duty of maintaining the rights of the United States and its citizens and of safeguarding their free exercise and judgment."

May 28, 1915, Germany replied with a note which was in every respect unsatisfactory. The note met none of the contentions of the United States so far as the Lusitania and Paluba sinkings were concerned, although a supplementary note later did acknowledge that Germany was wrong in the attacks on the Cushing and the Gulf-light, expressed regret for those two cases and promised to pay damages. While the American reply to the note was being framed, discussion in the cabinet resulted in the resignation of Secretary Bryan. He resigned because he thought he could not sign the next note to Germany, which he feared would lead the United States into war.

Lansing Takes Issue.

Secretary Lansing took office as Mr. Bryan's successor and his reply to the German note took issue with every contention that the Lusitania was armed or was to be treated as other than a peaceful merchant ship and reminded Germany that it was the duty of the United States "to speak with solemn emphasis, to call the attention of the imperial German government to the grave responsibility which the government of the United States conceives that it has incurred in this tragic occurrence and to the indisputable principle upon which that responsibility rests." The note averred that the declaration of a submarine war zone could not abbreviate the rights of Americans on lawful journeys.

To that note Germany did not reply until July 8 and the German rejoinder was preponderantly characterized by American newspapers, not as a note, but as an address by Foreign Minister von Jagow to the American people. In official circles it was said to come no nearer to meeting the American contentions than did the former German note.

The nature of the reply was regarded officially as convincing evidence that Germany was holding the negotiations as a club over the United States to force this government into some action to compel Great Britain to relax the food blockade.

President Wilson steadfastly refused to permit the diplomatic negotiations of the United States with one belligerent to become entangled with the relations with another.

America Disappointed.

To that the United States replied on July 21 that the German note failed to meet "the real differences between the two governments." The United States, it declared, was "keenly disappointed" with Germany's attitude. Submarine attacks without warning endangering Americans and other neutrals were characterized as "illegal and inhuman" and "manifestly indefensible." It declared that the United States would continue to contend for the freedom of the seas "from whatever quarter violated, without compromise and at any cost."

The negotiations at this point seemed to have come to such an impasse that the exchanges of notes between Washington and Berlin were stopped and that controversy was brought into the realm of "informal conversations" between Secretary Lansing and Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador. It was thought that much could be accomplished by personal contact which was lost in a cold exchange of documents.

BEEN IN YET?

GERMANS ARE
PUSHED BACK
IN NEW DRIVE

French Repulse Teutonic
Forces in Fierce Assault
West of the Meuse.

GAIN A FOOTHOLD

Paris Admits Crown Prince
Troops Take One or Two
Advanced Points.

Paris, May 5 (Noon).—West of the Meuse the Germans yesterday evening strongly attacked the French positions north of Hill 304, says the official statement issued this afternoon by the French war office, but they were repulsed along the whole front attacked except in one or two points in the advanced trenches.

An attempted attack on the trenches at Cappy, south of the Somme, the statement adds, completely failed. East of the Meuse and in the Woëvre there was an intermittent bombardment.

Otherwise the front was comparatively calm.

The text of the statement follows: "South of the Somme a coup de main attempted by the enemy on our trenches in the region of Cappy was completely checked."

"West of the Meuse after bombardment of extreme violence, the Germans at the close of the day yesterday launched a strong attack upon our positions north of Hill 304. They were repulsed along the whole front attacked but gained a footing at some points in our advance trench."

"East of the Meuse and in the Woëvre there was intermittent artillery activity."

"The night was relatively calm on the rest of the front."

German War Report.

Berlin, May 5 (by wireless to Sayville).—The capture of several French trenches southeast of Haucourt on the Verdun front was announced today by the war office. Repeated French attacks against a German position west of Dead Man's Hill broke down.

The text of the war office statement follows:

"Western front: Lively fighting continues on the British front between Arras and Arras."

"South of the Somme German patrols entered a position of the enemy, repulsed a counter attack and captured one officer and 45 soldiers."

"West of the Meuse (Verdun front) German troops entered French defensive positions on the salient west of Avocourt which had been evacuated by the enemy in consequence of the German fire. These positions were destroyed and abandoned."

"Southeast of Haucourt several French trenches were captured and prisoners were taken. Repeated attacks of the enemy against our position west of Dead Man's Hill broke down completely."

"East of the Meuse the artillery actions were intense, especially during the night."

THE WAR TODAY

A French curtain of fire has repulsed a German attack launched against trenches which the French recently captured at Le Mort Homme. This has been the only infantry fighting on the French and Belgian fronts. Artillery is active at many points. An especially violent bombardment is reported around Hill 304, northwest of Verdun.

Both Russian and German artillery are active at Ikskull bridgehead and south of Krevno.

On the Austro-Italian front bombardments continue.

Movements by the Turks against the Russians at Balburt and Erzincan have been repulsed, according to Petrograd. The German general, Liman von Sanders, is superintending the concentration of Turkish troops in North Smyrna and defense measures for Turkey's Asiatic coast.

Brasils has notified the German legation at Rio Janeiro that it has ordered an urgent investigation into the sinking of the Brazilian steamer Rio Branco, in order that Brazil may act with certainty in defense of its neutral rights.

More Rebels
Executed by
the English

Dublin, May 4.—Four more rebel prisoners were sentenced to death by court martial and shot this morning. This was announced officially. The men were Joseph Plunkett, Edward Daly, Michael O'Hanrahan and William Pearce.

Fifteen other rebels were sentenced to death, the official statement adds but later their sentences were commuted to 10 years' penal servitude.

The death sentence of another prisoner was commuted to eight years' penal servitude. Two rebels were sentenced to 10 years in prison.

The following official communication was issued this afternoon (Thursday): "Four prisoners, Joseph Plunkett, Edward Daly, Michael O'Hanrahan and William Pearce, were sentenced to death and shot this morning."

"Fifteen others sentenced to death were commuted to 10 years' penal servitude. They are: Thomas Bevan, Thomas Walsh, Finian Lynch, Michael Mervyn, Dennis O'Callahan, P. L. Sweeney, Patrick McNestry, Peter Clancy, William Tobin, George Irvine, John Doherty, J. J. Walsh, James McLinn, J. J. Reid and John Williams."

"Another prisoner, John McGarry, was commuted from death to eight years."

Joseph Plunkett, court martialled and shot by order of the British government Thursday was one of the seven original signers of the proclamation of the Irish provisional government. When Patrick H. Pearse, provisional president and Thomas J. Clarke and Thomas MacDonagh met a similar fate, it was announced in cable dispatches that of the remaining four signers of the proclamation, Blunkett and James Connolly were in prison and that S. MacDiarmid and E. Ceannt had not been accounted for.

Plunkett was a member of the Catholic branch of the famous Irish family of that name.

Mr. Pearce was a brother of Patrick H. Pearse. He was a sculptor and was once a tutor in the Irish boys' school, of which his brother was head master. Edward Daly and Michael O'Hanrahan, also among the rebels killed yesterday, have not played prominent roles in the revolutionary movement so far as cable dispatches indicated.

ZEPPELIN BLOWN
UP BY NORSEMEN

Copenhagen, May 5.—The military authorities at Stavanger, Norway, blew up the Zeppelin L-20 yesterday when it began to roll dangerously in a strong wind. Soldiers fired upon the airship from a distance of 60 yards. The Zeppelin exploded with great detonation and was burned.

The L-20 was one of the squadron of Zeppelins which raided the east coasts of England and Scotland Tuesday night. On her return journey she was blown ashore on the Norwegian coast, hurled against a mountain side and wrecked.

BERNSTORFF ON
WAY TO CAPITAL

New York, May 5.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, left for Washington today on a 1 o'clock train after having received by wireless telegraph at his hotel here the text of the German note. The ambassador denied himself to interviewers.

It is known, however, that the German embassy view is that the note is all for which the United States asked; that it signals a return to the operation of submarines as cruisers, intercepting commerce with visit and search. The embassy view is that inasmuch as no mention was made in the note of the question of armament it is not a complicating feature.

Latest Bulletins

El Paso, May 5.—At General Funston's temporary headquarters here it was said this afternoon a message had been received from General Pershing in which he stated that he thought he had located Villa.

London, May 5.—A Zeppelin raided Saloniki during the early hours of this morning, according to a Renter dispatch from that city. The airship was subjected to a heavy fire and reported to have been destroyed.

London, May 5.—The Norwegian schooner Mars, bound for England with pit props, was stopped and burned by a German cruiser, says a dispatch from Copenhagen to the Exchange Telegraph company. The crew was saved.

Stockholm, May 5.—Witnesses who testified at an inquiry here regarding the capture of the Danish schooner Olga, by a German trawler, while enroute from Halmstad to England in March, declared that the vessel was seized while in Swedish waters.

Marines Are
Put Ashore
at Domingo

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, May 5.—Marines were landed today from the American converted cruiser Prairie for the protection of American legation. The situation growing out of the attempt to overthrow the administration of President Jimines, is critical.

President Jimines has ordered the governor of Santo Domingo City to take charge of the forces under General Ferrer. The rural guards have been placed under the command of authorities appointed by the chief executive.

ENGLISH TO FREE
TEUTON CAPTIVES

London, May 5.—The British government has decided to release the 38 Germans and Austrians who were taken from the American steamship China.

The Germans and Austrians were removed from the China by the British auxiliary cruiser Laurence Feb. 19, while the China was enroute from Shanghai to San Francisco. The United States requested Great Britain to release these men and being met with a declination, sent a second note. The British authorities charged that the 38 men were concerned in a plot for a revolution in India.

MEET TO SETTLE
MEXICAN ISSUE

Washington, May 5.—Indications today were that representatives of the United States and the Mexican de facto government, ready to hold their last conference at El Paso, would reach a final agreement on the problems arising from the American military expedition into Mexico.

General Scott at El Paso had the ratification by President Wilson and Secretary Baker of the tentative agreement arranged Tuesday at the conference with General Obregon, Carranza minister of war.

The two generals were expected to meet again at El Paso today and complete the agreement. Details then will be made public.

Rock Island Road in Burlington Silt.
Burlington, Ia., May 5.—Ancient history was exploited in the district court today in the trial of an action brought by the city of Burlington against the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad, involving the possession of certain accretions on the river front. The city bases its ownership of the ground upon an act of congress passed in 1836.

DAY IN CONGRESS

SENATE.

Resumed debate on bill for federal aid to good roads construction.

Naval committee recommended passage of bill to create naval reserve.

HOUSE.

Resumed debate on Porto Rican bill.

THE WEATHER

Forecast Till 7 P. M. Tomorrow, for
Rock Island, Davenport, Moline
and Vicinity.

Fair tonight and Saturday; continued mild temperature.

Temperature at 7 a. m. 54. Highest yesterday 70, lowest last night, 50.

Velocity of wind at 7 a. m. 8 miles per hour.

Precipitation none.

Relative humidity at 7 p. m. 52, at 7 a. m. 68, at 1 p. m. today 25.

Stage of water 15.8 a rise of 3 in last 24 hours.

J. M. SHERIER, Local Forecaster.